

# OREGON CROP WEATHER



OREGON  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE

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**Weather:** Conditions were generally warm across the State, aiding plant growth and development in many areas. Harney County experienced some flash flooding and heavy rain, while hailstorms were reported in Linn County. Precipitation in most other counties was measurable but sporadic. Malheur County recorded high temperatures around 100 degrees, causing increased irrigation water usage. Northeast Oregon areas recorded temperatures as high as 13 degrees above normal and precipitation as high as 1.12 inches above normal, while coastal area weather stations recorded precipitation as much as 0.86 inches below normal. Rome reported 157 total growing degree days, 63 above normal.

**Field Crops:** Warm weather helped crops mature. Where there was rain, cautious optimism reigned. Where rain was short, such as Sherman County, the warm weather increased plant stress. Wheat farmers there were hoping for an average yield. Heading in Wasco County was moving south. There was septoria in some Lane County winter wheat and rust in some spring wheat. Rain fell on some downed Deschutes County hay.

**Vegetables:** Warm weather across much of the State continued to allow planting. In Jackson County, vegetable gardens were being planted and corn planting was completed, except for some late sweet corn planting. Farmers were busy with corn and tomato planting in Josephine County. In Lane County, green beans and corn began to emerge, while cucumber beetles came out in large numbers. Spring vegetable planting continued in Marion County. In Baker County, potatoes began to emerge and looked good.

**Nurseries and Greenhouses:** Nurseries were moving pots, finishing up field planting and starting to irrigate field stock. Greenhouses were still shipping bedding plants to retail outlets. Spring plant sales were about done with most sales now at Saturday markets. Easter lily growers on the southern Oregon coast reported above normal population of aphids. Christmas trees looked good with lots of new growth.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** Warm temperatures combined with thunderstorms helped promote good grass growth. Range and pasture land was reported to be in primarily fair to good condition across the State. Compared to this time a year ago, pastures were in much better shape. Livestock were benefitting from the pasture conditions and were reported to be in good condition.

**Fruit:** Warm, dry weather resulted in irrigation of many fruit orchards. The strawberry harvest started. Vineyards looked good and blossoms were showing. Cherries, apples and pears were filling out nicely. Early cherries around The Dalles started to show a light pink color. Cherries in other areas of Wasco County were losing their dark green color and going into the yellow stage. Cranberry growers were focusing on crop irrigation. Some growers applied fertilizer. Crop development was between roughneck, hook and early bloom.

**Crop Progress Week Ending 6/1/03**

	This week	Previous week	Last year	5 year average
All Barley planted (%)	95	79	—	—
All Barley emerged (%)	87	66	88	—
All Barley headed (%)	13	—	55	—
Spring wheat emerged (%)	93	86	—	—
Winter wheat headed (%)	48	24	65	52
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.0	6.6	—	—

**Soil Moisture Week Ending 6/1/03**

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil (%)	9	22	67	2
Subsoil (%)	19	19	61	1

**Crop Condition Week Ending 6/1/03**

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat %	--	20	55	24	1
Barley %	--	7	70	22	1
Range & Pasture %	3	11	36	44	6

**COOS\CURRY:** With frost season winding down, cranberry growers were focusing on crop irrigation; some growers were applying fertilizer; crop development varied; many beds were between roughneck, hook and early bloom. First brood blackheaded fireworm larvae were still active on some farms, but most fireworms were transitioning to pupae and moths. Black vine weevil adults were emerging and leaf notching was evident on new growth at some cranberry farms. Also, pheromone traps were collecting early flight of cranberry girdler and blackheaded fireworm moths. Easter lily growers in Curry County were seeing above normal populations of aphids. Mostly good. Bottom ground was fair. Drainage from bottom ground was about one month behind average. Thunderstorms affected some areas of the south coast between 8 and 9 p.m. on May 29; most of the precipitation occurred in the interior valleys and the Coast Range.

**JACKSON:** Lots of rain and warmer weather is giving lots of good growth to grain and hay crops. Grain heading out. Alfalfa and grass hay being cut. Corn planting completed except for late sweet corn. Fruit growers using conventional spray programs, applying first cover sprays for codling moth control. Orchardists beginning to irrigate now that warmer temperatures have arrived. Vineyards are looking good with blossoms already showing. Vegetable gardens being planted and early plantings being cultivated. Nurseries still working with balled and potted trees and shrubs and potted and hanging baskets of flowers. Greenhouses still have flower and vegetable starts. Good pastures are keeping all livestock looking good. Still new calves showing up. Good weather for most farm and ranch work.

**JOSEPHINE:** Livestock and pasture are looking good. Seven beautiful days with one magnificent thunderstorm that lasted through the next morning, and measurable precipitation that night! Everyone is busy in yards or selling. Nursery sales were brisk. Grapes are blooming; cherries, apples and pears are all filling out nicely. Truck gardens selling strawberries now. Busy planting corn, tomatoes and all those warm weather crops grown here. Lovely weather all week.

**LANE:** Lots of septoria in winter wheat and rust in spring wheat. If current weather trends persist, dryland subsoil moisture will deteriorate very fast. Apple bloom continued but huge scab infection showing up on unprotected trees. Crop looks mostly good with a few frosted areas. Codling moth is out in big numbers already. The fruit fly is out in the cherries; crop still medium. Prunes, plum and the peach crop looks to be down to around 50-60% of normal. Pears were looking okay, but a lot of cedar apple rust showing up as a disease this year. Blueberries down in yield. Black and red raspberries still looking good. Grape damage from last October and spring frost showing up. Green beans and corn up. A lot of warm season plants were transplanted the last two weeks. Cucumber beetle out in huge numbers.

**LINN:** Scattered thunderstorms produced some hail in the south.

**MARION:** Sun and warmer temperatures have arrived and all crops are responding. Spring vegetable crops continue to be planted, red clover is being green chopped and some grasses are being hayed. Drier, warmer weather is leading to more rapid plant development. It increases chance for rust to get going in the ryegrass and tall fescue fields. Some fungicide applications are being made for rust control. First cutting of alfalfa is underway. Irrigation of mint and some grass seed in progress. Other crops are looking good. Some growers are wishing for a little rainfall to recharge soil moisture levels.

**YAMHILL:** The western cherry fruit fly emerged on May 27. The prolonged bloom period caused by cool, rainy weather has resulted in an erratic fruit set for sweet cherries throughout the Willamette Valley. The crop size set varies from orchard to orchard. The overall sweet cherry crop tonnage looks about the same as last year.

## EASTERN OREGON

**BAKER:** Potatoes emerged and looked good. Good rainshower will make this a good grass year. Crops look fine, so far no sign of frost damage.

**DESCHUTES:** Some downed hay got rained upon.

**HARNEY:** Warm weather finally arrived. Hot and dry part of the week. Friday had flash floods and heavy rains, with 0.72 of an inch of rain. Cool but sunny the rest of the week. Grass growth responding. Grasshopper hatches reported.

**HOOD RIVER:** The first cherry fruit fly emerged in Hood River between May 24 and 27. On May 30, 250 codling moth degree-days had accumulated since the May 1 biofix. Growers starting irrigation on young blocks and hand thinning in Bartlett pears.

**MALHEUR:** Sporadic thunderstorms throughout the county this past week has helped keep range grass conditions good. Extremely hot weather has increased irrigation water usage. All crops look good at this point in time. Midweek high temperatures were near record highs around 100 degrees. These were followed by thunderstorms and rain. Ontario reported 0.71 of an inch of rain and McDermitt approximately 0.25 of an inch of rain. It was a rare occurrence when all of the county gets rain from a single storm. Lots of hay down but the rain was still welcome.

**SHERMAN:** High temperatures and shortage of rain have really emphasized the shallow grounds. Annually cropped winter wheat showing stress more than others, but some stress visible throughout the county. Shower over Memorial Day weekend was welcomed but too short. Wheat farmers hoping for average yields. Need rain. Rye pulling and some spraying of thistles in spring wheat, rodding and fertilizing were the main field activities.

**WALLOWA:** Hotter weather throughout the week has really helped the crop growth. Some moisture received during the end of the week.

**WASCO:** Rain fell on Friday, raising the spirits of dryland grain farmers; it should help to fill wheat kernels. Early in the week, the wheat crop started to show stress in the shallow spots. Heading is moving southward in county. Alfalfa hay baling was active until the Friday morning rain. The early cherries around The Dalles are starting to show a light pink color; other cherries are losing their dark green color and going into the yellow stage. The Dufur area is about two weeks behind The Dalles. Spraying started for the cherry fruit fly and will continue every ten days until cherry harvest is completed. Cattle and sheep continued to do well on range and pastures that were still showing some green tints. This is quite different from last year's dried up grasses.

**WEATHER DATA FOR SELECTED STATIONS IN OREGON WEEK ENDING JUNE 1, 2003 (as of 11:00 am)**

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS BASE-50F		LAST WEEK PRECIP			SEASON CUM PRECIPITATION			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	PCT NORMAL	DAYS
<b>COASTAL AREAS</b>													
Astoria/Clatsop	42	80	58	4	53	23	0.06	-0.57	1	58.65	-2.96	95	163
Crescent City	43	64	55	0	35	1	0.01	-0.52	1	58.46	-4.14	93	117
Florence	43	85	58	4	60	26	0.00	-0.75	0	74.72	2.74	104	142
North Bend	48	70	58	3	54	18	0.00	-0.54	0	64.20	3.84	106	141
Tillamook	41	73	57	4	47	22	0.05	-0.86	2	82.46	0.26	100	157
<b>WILLAMETTE VALLEY</b>													
Corvallis	48	84	64	8	99	49	0.00	-0.39	0	33.25	-6.88	83	117
Eugene	44	77	61	3	76	18	0.03	-0.39	1	39.91	-6.5	86	141
Hillsboro	47	84	63	6	95	42	0.25	-0.11	2	35.91	1.29	104	138
McMinnville	46	85	62	5	87	31	0.48	0.13	1	39.80	-1.18	97	143
Portland	52	84	64	5	100	33	0.00	-0.42	0	33.26	0.10	100	139
Salem	45	84	62	5	88	36	0.00	-0.42	0	38.78	2.22	106	141
<b>SW VALLEYS</b>													
Grants Pass	47	89	68	6	125	42	0.00	-0.21	0	33.05	3.24	111	107
Medford	47	89	68	7	129	50	0.00	-0.21	0	22.49	4.96	128	103
Roseburg	47	82	65	6	102	36	0.00	-0.28	0	31.79	0.91	103	124
<b>NORTH CENTRAL</b>													
Condon	43	82	60	5	69	33	0.57	0.29	2	12.67	0.77	106	100
Heppner	47	88	64	6	99	39	0.25	-0.03	2	11.26	-0.73	94	100
Hermiston	48	91	68	6	131	44	0.14	0.00	2	7.74	-0.17	98	76
John Day	45	89	65	9	108	61	0.60	0.24	3	10.97	0.42	104	96
Moro	43	83	61	5	80	34	0.09	-0.06	1	9.77	-0.01	100	76
Pendleton	49	88	67	6	121	43	0.20	-0.01	1	11.29	0.76	107	93
The Dalles	50	90	67	10	123	72	0.02	-0.18	1	13.89	2.72	124	85
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL</b>													
Bend	37	85	59	6	63	34	0.34	0.13	3	7.08	-2.72	72	60
Burns	40	92	63	10	89	59	0.82	0.58	1	7.74	-0.36	96	77
Klamath Falls	36	85	62	6	87	44	0.00	-0.21	0	10.91	-0.97	92	82
Lakeview	39	88	63	9	90	56	0.00	-0.35	0	3.64	-9.98	27	44
Redmond	38	87	61	7	79	44	0.86	0.65	1	6.98	0.11	102	69
<b>NORTHEAST</b>													
Baker City	42	91	63	8	96	55	1.47	1.12	2	8.11	0.09	101	84
Joseph	41	90	63	13	89	73	0.52	0.03	4	17.89	-3.33	84	129
La Grande	45	90	64	7	99	47	1.09	0.71	2	10.55	-3.99	73	92
Union	44	92	64	10	102	63	0.89	0.47	3	14.45	3.72	135	112
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>													
Ontario	54	100	72	9	157	63	0.49	0.28	2	7.87	-0.48	94	72
Rome	45	98	69	10	132	69	0.24	-0.02	2	6.57	0.09	101	68

Summary based on National Weather Service data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Sunday, September 1, 2002.

DFN= Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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